Volume 87 Number 8 SEPTEMBER 2022

### SEPTEMBER 6 ANNUAL LEAGUE PICNIC - see page 3

### SEPTEMBER 15 LUNCH & LEARN COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOL LEADERS



Our Thursday, September 15 Lunch & Learn Program at noon on Zoom will feature CPS Board Chair David Seamon and newly elected Board Member, Suzette Waters. The quality of our schools, civic education, and student safety are things the entire community cares about. The speakers will share with us some important things on their minds and plates. We will have a few prepared questions for them, and viewers will also have an opportunity to ask questions via Chat. Please join us and invite your friends to attend. Note that for this program only we are meeting on Thursday rather than our usual Tuesday.

Be sure to also join us Tuesday, October 11, for our Lunch & Learn Program with Boone County Clerk, Brianna Lennon, who will educate us on and answer questions about "What we need to know and do to VOTE in the November 8 Election."

As always, you can view previous Lunch & Learn Programs at your leisure; links can be found on our website and our Facebook page. Thanks to Lauren Williams and the Columbia Public Library for co-sponsoring these programs.

— Barbara Hoppe, Chair Lunch & Learn Committee

### **SEPTEMBER 21 CONSTITUTION DAY EVENT**

We will celebrate Constitution Day at 6:30p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, at the First Presbyterian Church, 16 Hitt Street. Our guest will be Chuck Henson, professor at the University of Missouri School of Law, speaking on employment discrimination. His topic will be "Title VII: It works, that's why we don't like it."

Please join us and invite your friends. This event will be both in person and on Zoom. The link to join the program will be sent at a later date.

 Pam Springsteel, Chair Hospitality Committee



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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi All,

The new photo ID law for voting in Missouri like many in other states - is depriving and denying many people the right to vote this year, many of whom have voted year after year. Case in point: Louise Eason is a 93-year-old retired research scientist and was a member of the LWVCBC for many years. She has voted in Boone County since the 1960s. Her mother was one of the first women to vote in Franklin, Nebraska. Louise told me several years ago about her mother standing in a long line waiting to vote, pregnant and due at any minute, while the men were ushered to the front of the line. Her water broke, and she was told to go home and have her baby. She said she was going to vote, even if it meant having her baby while standing in the line. Thankfully, they let her go to the front of the line, and she had her baby at home.

Recently Louise's mobility and health took a turn for the worse, and she wound up in a hospital in Columbia. She had to unexpectedly move out of state to Arkansas to live with her daughter. Louise was not able to get back into her home to get her possessions before she was moved to Arkansas. Several months later, I was able to bring two car-loads of her possessions to her when we were going to Arkansas to visit Crystal Bridges in Bentonville.

Louise's mind is still sharp, and she diligently keeps informed of the news and the candidates and has voted in every election since she was old enough to vote. She hasn't had a driver's license in many years and never needed one to vote in Boone County. Not surprisingly, her birth certificate is in pieces, frayed and unreadable. She thought she had a very old driver's license somewhere, maybe, in an old wallet, but unfortunately, it wasn't in the one old wallet I found in the boxes I transported to her.

Louise called the County Clerk's Office in Fort Smith, Arkansas and was told she could get a non-drivers license Photo ID with a legible birth certificate. She called Franklin, Nebraska, and was told she had to present a valid photo ID to get a copy of her birth certificate. Classic Catch 22!

How frustrating and impossible for the averageage person - much less someone much older -

who doesn't drive, isn't very mobile, and doesn't have someone who can drive them, to try to jump through all these hoops in order to exercise their right to vote. (Also, in Arkansas, you have to register 30 days before the election, yet one more huge hurdle to jump).

I researched further and learned that Louise may be able to get a birth certificate from Nebraska if she has both a medicare, medicaid or health card and a bank statement with her current address. Whether that will work remains to be seen.

Louise is just one example of the many people who are being disenfranchised by the new Voter Photo ID laws, which are denying citizens their right to Vote.

Missouri has a similar Photo Voter ID law. The LWVMO is part of two lawsuits to challenge this law that disenfranchises legitimate voters. If you or someone you know is facing similar difficulty in getting a Voter ID in time to Vote in the November Election, let me or Marilyn McLeod know. They may be able to be party to the lawsuit that is challenging this burdensome roadblock to voting.

Also, be sure to tune in to our October 11 Lunch and Learn Program at noon on Zoom, when Boone County Clerk Brianna Lennon will answer your questions about "What you need to know and do to Vote in the November 8th election!"

Barbara Hoppe, President vesforparks@hotmail.com





League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County invites you, your family and friends to our 2022 Fall Picnic at Gordon Shelter in Stephens Park Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 5:30pm



### Program:

Reenactment of Luella St. Clair Moss by Mary Shaw Introduction of committee chairs Trivia quiz

Price of the meal is \$10 per person for a box supper: choice of ham, turkey, roast beef or vegetarian sandwich, with a side garden salad (variety of dressings provided).

You may request gluten-free bread.

Dessert and beverage provided.

Brown bag dinners ordered from McAlisters
You may pay for your order via Pay Pal on our website

lwvcbc.org or send a check to LWVCBC, P.O. Box 239, Columbia, MO 65205

Please email your meal order to Meredith <mjdonlsn@gmail.com>
or call 573-289-3018

Face Masks required except during the meal

It is recommended to bring your own water bottle.

You may bring your own lawn chair to socially distance during the program.

Peadline to order meals is September 1

### **UPDATE ON MISSOURI'S NEW VOTING LAW & LWVMO ACTION**

The board of the League of Women Voters of Missouri (LWVMO) voted on August 18 to participate in two lawsuits in response to the effects of HB1878. This bill was passed in a rushed process during the final days of the 2022 Missouri legislative session and will be in effect for the November 8 general election.

Among its many components, this law imposes severe restrictions, with harsh criminal sanctions, on basic voter outreach and assistance, which is much of the LWV's work. The law also mandates strict voter photo ID requirements.

### The first lawsuit LWVMO has joined addresses the issue of free speech.

Here are key aspects of the new law addressed in the first lawsuit:

- The new law prohibits compensating people for certain voter registration activities. The law is so vague that even reimbursement for parking or mileage at a voter registration event could put volunteers and organizations at risk of prosecution.
- The law also mandates that anyone who assists with more than ten voter registration applications in a period from one general election to the next must be at least 18, must be registered to vote, and must register with the Secretary of State, with criminal penalties for not complying.
- The law also forbids anyone from suggesting how a voter could obtain an absentee ballot application, denying many Missourians the opportunity to vote in a convenient way.

Missouri's rules for absentee ballots are very limiting and are well-protected from fraud.

 These components of this law could criminalize many of the League's basic voter outreach efforts, including possible fines, jail time, and even the permanent loss of the right to vote.

### The second lawsuit is focused on the strict requirements for voter photo ID.

The law limits acceptable ID's for voting to nonexpired Missouri driver's licenses or Missouri ID's, U.S. passports, or other government-issued ID's such as military ID's. Student ID's will no longer be acceptable, nor expired licenses, nor voter registration cards issued by local election authorities.

It is a fact that more than 250,000 Missourians do not have these limited forms of non-expired government identification. Since the right to vote is enshrined in the Missouri Constitution, and there is virtually no voter fraud, this is clearly an effort to stop people from exercising this basic right. This strict requirement regarding photo ID has been struck down by the courts several times in the past, and we expect it will be again.

The LWVMO is joining with the MO NAACP as plaintiffs in these lawsuits, with legal representation by the ACLU-MO, the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition, and other legal assistance.

 Marilyn McLeod, President LWVMO

### **ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE UPDATE**

A huge thank you to Dick Parker, who has diligently Chaired the Climate and Energy Committee for many years. (He followed in Win Colwill footsteps, who Chaired the Committee superbly for many years before him.) Dick has officially stepped down from being Chair, and Barbara Hoppe and Sharon Schneeberger have agreed to be Co-chairs of the committee for this year. Barbara has agreed to become Chair of this Committee after her term as LWVCBC President ends in April 2023. There is much work to be done to address climate change, and

we will work with other groups to address this crucial problem.

ALSO BE SURE TO SAVE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, for the 8th ANNUAL WALK FOR THE CLIMATE! We will gather with other groups and organizations at 1:30 p.m. at the Courthouse Plaza for a Rally followed by a 5K walk through downtown COMO and Campus (or as much as you can do.) Please join us in making our climate concerns visible!

— Barbara Hoppe, Co-chair Energy & Climate Committee

### **VOTER REGISTRATION UPDATE AND OPPORTUNITIES**

As August draws to a close and September comes knocking, we enter a busy season for Voter Registration for the November General Election. The deadline for registrations is Wednesday, October 12.

I appreciate all of the members who signed up to help with registration efforts via the SignUp Genius. There are several remaining opportunities to volunteer. Click on this link to find a date, time, and place that works for you! <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44adaa29a0fa7-voter">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b44adaa29a0fa7-voter</a>

We hope to have information by the end of the month from the Secretary of State's office concerning HB 1878 and the implications for voter registration. Updates/training will be provided. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me

at linda.k.smith1954@gmail.com

Linda Smith, Chair
 Voter Registration Committee

### NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY IS SEPTEMBER 20

National Voter Registration Day, a nonpartisan civic holiday celebrating our democracy, was first observed in 2012. Since then, nearly 4.7 million voters have registered to vote on this holiday.

National Voter Registration Day involves volunteers and organizations from all over the country reaching out to tens of thousands of voters who may not otherwise register. On September 20, we will partner with them to register voters at the Columbia Public Library from 11:00 am - 3:30 pm.

As you know, the LWV has worked to promote civic engagement in government since long before National Voter Registration Day began.

Today, Leagues across the U.S. work to increase voters' access to the polls by promoting the expansion of early voting and automatic and online voter registration.

According to U.S. Census data from 2020, as many as one in four eligible Americans are not registered to vote. Every year, Americans find themselves unable to vote because they miss a registration deadline, don't update their registration, or aren't sure how to register. The purpose of National Voter Registration Day is to make sure everyone has the opportunity to vote.

For more information, see our <u>2022 National</u> Voter Registration Day Partner Guide.

Sharon Schneeberger
 Voter Registration Committee

# CONNECTING THE DOTS: KITCHEN TABLE TALK ON EVERYDAY ECONOMIC ISSUES

"Connecting the Dots" is the LWVCBC's new series of forums/podcasts on topics of interest beyond the realm of voting. The series will address economics, politics, climate change, inequality, education, and other social issues.

The first forum, "The Kitchen Table Talk on Everyday Economics Issues," held on August 9th, provided an opportunity for participants to better understand current economic issues and the economic environment.

Topics discussed included inflation, recession, the economic effects of Covid-19, and government fiscal and monetary policy. The evening provided an opportunity for a robust

discussion on issues weighing heavily on voters in the coming election. To view the program use this link: <a href="https://youtu.be/pgLv6AJ9YPQ">https://youtu.be/pgLv6AJ9YPQ</a> Some additional resources related to the program can be found here: <a href="Resources to better understand">Resources to better understand</a> the Economy

This series will continue to focus on timely topics of interest. We welcome your ideas and suggestions and invite your participation in creating programs and podcasts. Please contact <a href="mailto:diane.suhler@gmail.com">diane.suhler@gmail.com</a> or sharon@schneeberger.net

Diane Suhler

# Second Lawsuit Filed: Missouri NAACP and League of Women Voters Sue State of Missouri, John Ashcroft over New Voter ID Restrictions — Press Release from <a href="https://www.lwv.org">www.lwv.org</a> August 24, 2022

Jefferson City, Mo. — The American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri and the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition filed a lawsuit against the State of Missouri and Secretary of State John Ashcroft challenging the voter identification requirements under recently passed House Bill 1878. The lawsuit, brought on behalf of the Missouri NAACP, the League of Women Voters of Missouri, and individual voters, alleges that the new restrictions violate the fundamental right to vote and equal protection under the Missouri Constitution.

"The League believes the state should be making it easier, not harder, for Missourians to exercise their fundamental right to vote," said Marilyn McLeod, president of the League of Women Voters of Missouri. "Many voters used other forms of ID to vote on August 2 and have no idea that the ID rules are tightening for the November 8 election. There's no evidence of voter impersonation in Missouri, so these extreme restrictions don't make our elections any safer or more secure."

In May, the Missouri legislature passed HB 1878. The law, which is set to go into effect just two months before the November General Election on August 28, would eliminate forms of ID Missourians currently rely upon to verify their identity at the polls.

"So-called voter ID laws have always been a part of a deceitful agenda by politicians in power to stoke fear and reduce participation of registered voters in elections without evidence of a problem," said Luz María Henríquez, Executive Director of the ACLU of Missouri. "This new law will disenfranchise Missourians, particularly people of color, people with limited income, rural Missourians, and voters with disabilities. These unnecessary and burdensome legal obstacles put in place by Missouri's lawmakers are unconstitutional."

A previous lawsuit was filed on Aug. 22, challenging HB 1878's voter registration and ballot assistance restrictions.

This lawsuit challenges the provisions of HB 1878 that limit specific forms of photo identification to vote in person at the polls and in person absentee. The provisions in question will

require federal or Missouri-issued, non-expired photo identification: they will repeal previously available alternative options for secondary identification such as Missouri student IDs, expired driver or non-driver licenses, non-photo state IDs, voter registration and voter identification cards issued by local election authorities, bank statements, or utility bills. The only alternative to the strict photo identification requirement will be an unreliable and standardless signature matching option required for a voter's provisional ballot to be counted after Election Day. The burden of these provisions will fall heaviest on marginalized communities, people of color, elderly voters, voters with disabilities, low-income voters, and students.

"The ability of all Missourians to cast a ballot lies at the heart of a functioning democracy," said Denise Lieberman, Director & General Counsel of the Missouri Voter Protection Coalition, which has fought strict voter ID requirements in Missouri since 2006. "For more than fifteen years, Missouri lawmakers have attempted to implement needless and discriminatory strict ID requirements to vote in Missouri — measures that the Missouri Supreme Court has concluded violate Missourians' right to vote. The ID restrictions stand to burden thousands of Missouri voters who do not have or will face difficulty getting the limited ID required to cast a regular ballot — disproportionately voters of color, seniors, voters with disabilities, young voters, and low-wage workers. We should be working to reduce barriers to participation for these communities, not make it harder to vote."

The Plaintiffs in the suit are two civic organizations, the Missouri State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Missouri NAACP) and the League of Women Voters of Missouri (LWVMO), and two impacted Missouri voters, D. Rene Powell and Kimberly Morgan.

"We will do everything in our power to make sure the rights of Missouri voters are restored, and everyone can have their vote counted," said Nimrod Chapel, Jr., President of the Missouri State Conference of the NAACP. "The NAACP has long raised concerns about Missouri's efforts to implement a (continued on page 12)

# League of Women Voters lobbying for next Columbia elementary school to be named after suffragist



# Roger McKinney Columbia Daily Tribune

This article was written by Roger McKinney and originally appeared in the <u>Columbia Daily Tribune</u> on August 12th, 2022. Reproduced with permission.

The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County is promoting a proposal that the next new elementary school in Columbia Public Schools bear the name of Luella St. Clair Moss.

Voters in April approved an \$80 million bond issue that includes financing for two new elementary schools. The first would open on the campus of John Warner Middle School.

Historic information about St. Clair Moss was provided to the Tribune on Thursday by the League of Women Voters, Columbia College and the Boone County Historical Society.

Known in her time as a "steam engine in petticoats," Moss was the first woman president of Christian Female College, now Columbia College. In her non-consecutive terms as president, she oversaw the financing and construction of eight campus buildings.

The buildings and structures include Launer Auditorium, Missouri Hall, Rogers Memorial Gate, Dorsey Hall and St. Clair Hall, the main campus building.

Installation of electric lights was part of her first term.

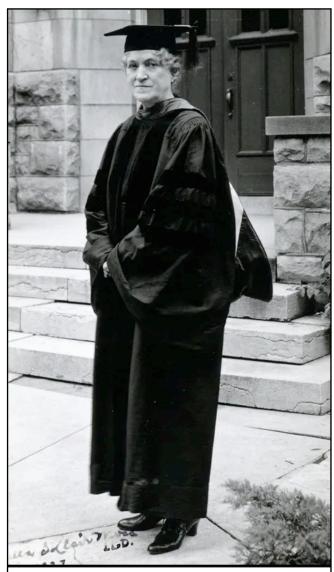
"She was one of the forces for the suffragists here," said Pam Springsteel, chair of the Luella Committee for the local League of Women Voters.

St. Clair Moss helped establish the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association in 1912, working to get women the right to vote until that happened with approval of the 19th Amendment.

She was the first woman elected to the Columbia Board of Education in 1922. That year, she also ran for Congress in Missouri's 8th

District. She won the Democratic nomination in a primary, but narrowly lost in the general election to the Republican nominee.

She later served as president of the League of Women Voters of Missouri and was the first woman president of the Missouri Library Commission. She worked to establish the tax



Luella St. Clair Moss served as president of the League of Women Voters of Missouri and was the first woman president of the Missouri Library Commission among other leadership roles over her lifetime. Photo provided by Columbia College

base for the Columbia Public Library 100 years ago.

She died in 1947 at age 82. She was inducted into the Boone County Historical Society's Hall of Fame in 2013.

Her name has been considered before, including for the school that became John Warner Middle School and when the school that became Beulah Ralph Elementary School was named in 2015.

The procedure for naming school buildings is in school board policy. A committee is formed comprised of key stakeholders from the district and community, and names are solicited from the community, said CPS spokeswoman Michelle Baumstark.



Luella St. Clair Moss served as president of the League of Women Voters of Missouri and was the first woman president of the Missouri Library Commission among other leadership roles over her lifetime. Photo provided by Columbia College.

The committee evaluates and considers the names and makes a recommendation to the school board.

The district hasn't started the process of naming the new elementary school, Baumstark said.

"We're a ways off from establishing a committee," she said. "The first step is to design the school with stakeholder input. That will take place this fall."

Springsteel said she had talked with CPS Superintendent Brian Yearwood about the LWV proposal and provided him with an informational flier.

"Wouldn't this be a perfect name for the next Columbia Public School?" the flier concludes.

League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County will have community actor Mary Shaw at its September picnic doing a portrayal of St. Clair Moss as part of its naming campaign. The picnic is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 6 at Gordon Shelter in Stephens Lake Park.



Luella St. Clair Moss helped establish the Columbia Equal Suffrage Association in 1912, working to get women the right to vote until that happened with approval of the 19th Amendment. Photo Provided by Boone County Historical Society

### GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE AND BALLOT ISSUES FORUMS ON OCTOBER 12 AND 19

The LWV candidates and ballot issue forums for the November 8 General Election will be held on October 12 and 19. Both forums will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbia Public Library and on Zoom.

On Wednesday, October 12, the League will feature the candidates in Boone County's contested races. The races and candidates are:

- Boone County Presiding Commissioner Connie Leipard (Republican) and Kip Kendrick (Democrat)
- Boone County Recorder of Deeds Shamon Jones (Republican) and Bob Nolte (Democrat)
- Boone County Auditor Jason Gibson (Republican) and Kyle Rieman (Democrat)
- Boone County Treasurer Dustin Stanton (Republican) and Jenna Redel (Democrat)

The Wednesday, October 19 forum will feature candidates for Missouri state representative in contested races as well as ballot issues. The races and candidates are:

- MO State Rep., District 44: Cheri Toalson Reisch (Republican) and David Raithel (Democrat)
- MO State Rep., District 47: John Martin (Republican) and Adrian Plank (Democrat)
- MO State Rep., District 50: James Musgraves (Republican) and Doug Mann (Democrat)

Statewide ballot issues information will also be presented at the October 19 forum. The ballot issues in brief are:

- Amendment 1 Authorizes the state treasurer to invest in highly rated municipal securities
- Amendment 3 Legalize recreational use of marijuana
- Amendment 4 Allows the legislature to pass a law until December 31, 2026, that requires a city to increase funding without reimbursement from the state to a police force that was established by a state board of police commissioners
- Amendment 5 Gives the Missouri National Guard its own department in the state government
- Constitutional Convention Question Ask voters whether to hold a constitutional convention

The Columbia Public Library is co-sponsoring our Forums. KFRU and KOPN will be broadcasting the Forums live. David Lile will be our moderator. The Forums will include an in-person audience and a Zoom audience. A link to sign up for either in-person or Zoom will be emailed to our members and will also be available at <a href="dotto:dbrl.org">dbrl.org</a>. Mask policy will follow the Library policy at the time of the forum.

Carol Schreiber, Chair
 Voter Service Committee

### Get ready for the fall picnic September 6!! Here are a few photos from last year....









### **Upcoming League Events!**



SEPTEMBER 2022							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
28	29	30	31	SEPT 1 LWVMO New Voter Rules Webinar 7pm	2	3	
4	5	6 LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am LWV Picnic Stephens Lake Park 5:30pm	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15 Lunch & Learn Columbia Public School Leaders Zoom at Noon	16	17	
18	19 LWVCBC Board Meeting 7pm Zoom	20	21 Constitution Day Forum 6:30pm First Presbyterian Church	22	23 Oct Voter Articles Due to Editor	24	
26	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1	
2	3 LWV on Paul Pepper Show KBIA 8:50 am	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11 Lunch & Learn Brianna Lennon New MO Voter Law Zoom at Noon	12 LWV Candidate Forum 6:30pm Library	13	14	15	
16	17 LWVCBC Board Meeting 7pm Zoom	18	19 LWV Candidate & Issues Forum 6:30pm Library	20	21	22 LWVCBC in MU Homecoming Parade	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	

#### **LWV Officers**:

President: Barbara Hoppe

(424 - 9668)

1st VP: Mahree Skala (474-2195) 2nd VP: Sharon Schneeberger

(443-4605)

Secretary: Carol Schreiber

(657-0639)

Treasurer: Elaine Martin

#### **Elected Directors:**

Elaine Blodgett (256-2803) Kate Canterbury (214-536-1300) Meredith Donaldson (289-3018) LInda Headrick Marilyn McLeod (239-3708) Rene Powell (864-4087) Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605) Pam Springsteel (445-0642)

### **Appointed Directors:**

Diane Suhler (443-0549)

Dick Parker (256-4397) Zainab Jasim Terryonna Samuels

#### **Committee Chairs:**

Budget:

Civil Liberties: Pam Springsteel

Education: Zona Burk

Energy & Climate: Barbara Hoppe & Sharon Schneeberger, Co-chairs

ERA: Susan Koenig Fundraising: Open Health: Mahree Skala

Hospitality: Pam Springsteel Luella Committee: Pam Springsteel

Luella Committee: Pam Springstee Lunch & Learn: Barbara Hoppe Membership: Meredith Donaldson Mental Health: Mahree Skala Speakers Bureau: Open Voter Registration: Linda Smith Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

The Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

Local Website: <a href="https://www.bc.org">lwvcbc.org</a>
State: <a href="https://www.brg.org">lwvcbc.org</a>
National: <a href="https://www.brg.org">lwv.org</a>

Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

### **MEMBER NEWS**

### Welcome to New Member: Jenna Redel

Current Total Membership = 202

Membership Renewal is in November of each year

### **2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

### League of Women Voters Columbia-Boone County

### **COME AND JOIN US!**

Simply fill out the	e form and mail to the a	ddress below				
Name						
Mailing Address						
	State					
First Time Member	r Renewal	_				
	include local, state and n invite you to add an addi k of our League.					
Individual Dues		*\$87				
Household Dues	\$100_	*\$122				
New member 30 years of age and under. \$30						
Student Dues (Age	es 16 to 25) Enrolled FT/F	PT \$FREE				
Subsidized Dues (	for members on limited in	ncome) \$25				
Donation to subside members who can	lize dues for not afford membership ra	\$ ites.				
General Donation		\$				
		Total: \$				
		<b>o</b> :				
Newsletters are se please check here	ent via email. If you need	a paper copy,				
**Donation to LW\	/CBC Education Fund	\$				
**Donations to Edu	ucation Fund are tax-ded	uctible. Please				

include a separate check payable to LWVEF-MO704

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### **League of Women Voters**

PO Box 239
Columbia MO 65205
<a href="http://lwvcbc.org">http://lwvcbc.org</a>

**Second Lawsuit** (cont'd from p.6) discriminatory voter ID law, and it is one of the reasons we have issued a travel advisory for the state. Democracy in Missouri is not a safe place for Black voters."

D. Rene Powell is a registered voter who regularly votes in her mid-Missouri district. Powell is disabled due to epilepsy and mobility issues which prevent her from driving and does not have a driver's license. She typically relies on public transportation or the assistance of friends for her transportation needs. In the August primary election, she was able to use her expired non-driver license to cast her ballot. However, under the new restrictions, she will be required to arrange transportation to go to the DMV to renew her non-driver's license for the sole purpose of exercising her fundamental right to vote.

Kimberly Morgan, who resides in a small town in eastern Missouri, is a regular voter who would like to vote in the November 2022 election. However, she discovered that her name was spelled incorrectly on a replacement birth certificate after she secured a state-issued ID which also had the same spelling error. In the past, she used her voter registration card which bore the correct spelling of her name to cast her

ballot. With the new voter restrictions, Morgan will no longer be able to exercise her fundamental right to vote with her voter registration card. Correcting the spelling and obtaining a new birth certificate and state-issued non-driver's license will take a significant amount of time, effort, planning, and resources for the mother of three.

Previous legislative attempts to pass laws restricting the type of acceptable identification were ruled unconstitutional by Missouri's Supreme Court in 2006 and 2020.

"Missouri's new voter ID law would prevent some people from using identification that they have used for decades when voting," said Janette McCarthy Wallace, National General Counsel of the NAACP. "It would disproportionately affect people of color and prevent lawfully registered voters from casting ballots. The nonpartisan NAACP has always existed, in part, to challenge such attempts to disenfranchise Black voters."

The ACLU of Missouri and MOVPC filed suit on behalf of MO NAACP, LWVMO, Morgan, and Powell challenging certain provisions of HB 1878 for violating their rights to equal protection and their fundamental right to vote as enshrined in the Missouri Constitution.